

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 33-34, 36, 40, and 45-46 as follows:

¹
~~33.~~ (Twice Amended) A composition comprising a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms α , β and γ , in combination with a second compound which selectively activates a Retinoic Acid Receptor in preference to a Retinoid X Receptor.

²
~~34.~~ (Twice Amended) A composition comprising a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms α , β and γ , in combination with a second compound which activates one or more intracellular receptors other than a Retinoid X Receptor.

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~~36.~~ (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle for enteral, parenteral, or topical administration a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms α , β and γ , in combination with a second compound which selectively activates one or more intracellular receptors other than a Retinoid X Receptor.

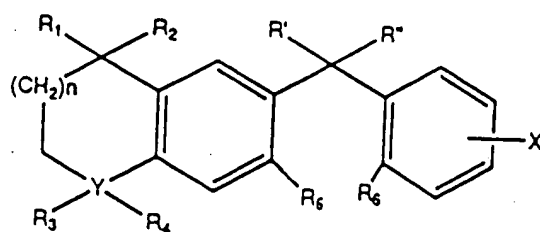
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⁶
~~40.~~ (Three Times Amended) A method for modulating a process mediated by intracellular receptors, said method comprising causing said process to be conducted in the presence of a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to all of Retinoic Acid Receptor[s] isoforms α , β , and γ , in combination with a second compound which

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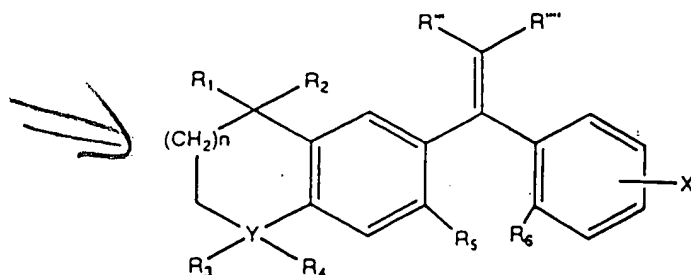
activates an intracellular receptor other than Retinoid X Receptors, said activated intracellular receptor forming a dimer with said activated Retinoid X Receptor, and wherein the biological effect in a patient produced by said first and second compounds at a given concentration is equal to or greater than the additive effect achieved utilizing each said first and second compounds alone at said concentration, and wherein said process is the *in vivo* modulation of lipid metabolism, *in vivo* modulation of skin-related processes, *in vivo* modulation of autoimmune diseases, *in vivo* modulation of fatty acid metabolism, *in vivo* modulation of malignant cell development, *in vivo* modulation of premalignant lesions, or *in vivo* modulation of programmed cell death.

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(Amended) A compound having the formula:



or



wherein

R₁ and R₂, each independently, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

Y represents C, O, S, or N;

R₃ represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C or N;

R₄ represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C, but R₄ does not exist if Y is N, and neither R₃ or R₄ exist if Y is S or O;

R' and R'' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

or R' or R'' taken together form an oxo (keto), methano, cyclopropyl or cycloalkyl group and wherein the cyclopropyl and cycloalkyl groups can be substituted with lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons;

R''' and R'''' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

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R₅ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons or OR₇, but R₅ cannot be hydrogen if R₆ is hydrogen and R' and R'' represent H, OH, C-C₄ alkoxy or C₁-C₄ acyloxy or R' and R'' taken together form an oxo or a methano;

R₆ represents hydrogen;

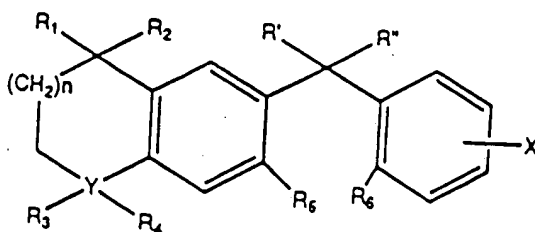
R₇ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-6 carbons;

X is COOH and can originate from any C on the ring; and

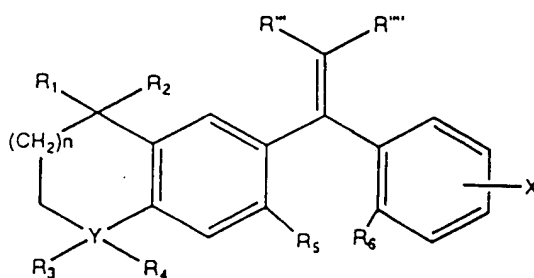
n = 0-1.

13 46. ¹³ (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for control of cellular processes regulated by retinoid compounds, Vitamin D, or thyroid hormone, comprising an effective regulating amount of a bicyclic aromatic compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester, amide or salt

thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the bicyclic aromatic compound has the structural formula:



OR



wherein:

R₁ and R₂, each independently, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

Y represents C, O, S, or N;

R₃ represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C or N;

R₄ represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C, but R₄ does not exist if Y is N, and neither R₃ or R₄ exist if Y is S or O;

R' and R'' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

or R' or R'' taken together form an oxo (keto), methano, cyclopropyl or cycloalkyl group and wherein the cyclopropyl and cycloalkyl groups can be substituted with lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons;

R''' and R'''' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

ad added
R₅ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons or OR₇, but R₅ cannot be hydrogen if R₆ is hydrogen and R' and R'' represent H, OH, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or C₁-C₄ acyloxy or R' and R'' taken together form an oxo or a methano;

R₆ represents hydrogen;

R₇ represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-6 carbons;

X is COOH and can originate from any C on the ring; and

n = 0-1.
